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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

**(W. G. EVANS, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.)**

Including the Report of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

(F. T. HARRISON, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.)

1950.



OSSETT:

S. COCKBURN AND SON, THE BOROUGH PRINTING WORKS
AND "OBSERVER" OFFICE.



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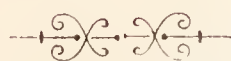
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Health Committee.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR S. E. BICKLE (Mayor)

Members :

ALDERMAN J. W. FORD

„ J. W. GILL

„ G. MOORHOUSE

„ G. F. WILSON

COUNCILLOR J. E. ATKINSON

„ H. AUDSLEY

„ A. CLARK

„ E. LAWTON

„ E. LLOYD

„ E. B. NETTLETON

„ N. OAKES

„ H. SMITH

„ L. R. SMITH

„ J. TYLER

„ C. P. WILSON

Co-opted Members :

MRS. M. ELLIS

MRS. G. MOORHOUSE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

WILLIAM GORONWY EVANS, M.A., M.B., B.Ch.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

BASIL WADE, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., to Dec. 4th,
1950.

F. T. HARRISON, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., from
May 28th, 1951.

To the Mayor and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fourth Annual Report.

I have again tried to give the Committee a complete picture of the health services of the area.

Though it is a matter of regret that the vital statistics are not entirely satisfactory, particularly in regard to the infant mortality, the Report does show that, in spite of shortages of staff, the local health services have continued to expand. This has only been possible because of the willing co-operation of the staff, doctors, nurses, social workers and clerical workers.

The Committee's continued and helpful interest is much appreciated and I acknowledge with pleasure the co-operation of my colleagues on the Council's staff.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient Servant,

W. G. EVANS.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS.

General Statistics:—

Area: 3,332 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1950): 14,800.

Number of dwelling-houses: 4,859.

Rateable value: £72,046.

Sum represented by penny rate (actual product): £279.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Males.	Females.	Total.	
Live births	Legitimate	111	117	228	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population = 15.9
	Illegitimate	5	2	7	
		116	119	235	
Still births	Legitimate	4	6	10	Rate per 1,000 live and still births = 45
	Illegitimate	—	1	1	
		4	7	11	
Deaths		115	102	217	Rate per 1,000 of estimated population = 14.7

TABLE I—CAUSES OF DEATH AND AGE DISTRIBUTION.

Cause of Death,	0-1		1-5		5-15		15-30		30-45		45-60		60-75		75+		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...							1	3									1	3
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea ...	1								1	2	1	5	7	7	2	3	1	17
Cancer ...											1						1	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...											5	2	9	4	4	2	18	8
Coronary disease, angina ...	1	1					1	1	3	1	4	6	19	14	12	18	40	41
Other heart and circulatory diseases ...														2	1	1	3	3
Influenza ...	3	1			1				2		6	1	7	3	1	3	19	9
Respiratory: Pneumonia, bronchitis													1	2	1		1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis ...																	3	
Enlarged prostate ...	2																2	2
Congenital malformation, birth injuries	3	2		1						1		2	4	5	6	5	13	16
Other diseases ...									2		1						1	
Motor vehicle accidents ...			1										1	1			1	1
All other accidents ...																	4	
Total all causes ...	10	6	1	1	1		2	4	8	4	18	16	50	38	26	32	115	102

INFANT MORTALITY.

TABLE II.

NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES UNDER ONE YEAR :—16.

Causes of death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total under 1 year.
Prematurity	5				5					5
Broncho-pneumonia				1	1			2		3
Lobar-pneumonia							1			1
Gastro-enteritis			1		1					1
Congenital malformation	2				2			1		3
Birth injuries	1				1					1
Cerebral hæmorrhage	1				1					1
Subarachnoid hæmorrhage							1			1
Totals	9		1	1	11		2	3		16

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR :—

Administrative County of the West Riding of Yorkshire	35
Ossett Borough	68

TABLE III—COMPARATIVE STATISTICS.

	Ossett M.B.	Aggregate W.R. Urban Districts.	Aggregate W.R. Rural Districts.	W.R. Admin. County.	England and Wales.
Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated population)	15.9	15.9	17.4	16.3	15.8
Still births	45	24	22	24	*
Death Rate (All per 1,000 estimated population)					
All causes	14.7	12.4	10.0	11.8	11.6
Infective and parasitic (exc. T.B., but inc. V.D.)	—	0.10	0.11	0.10	*
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0.27	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.32
Tuberculosis, other	—	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04
Cancer	1.89	1.94	1.51	1.83	1.99
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	2.09	1.70	1.29	1.59	*
Heart and circulatory	5.14	4.66	3.62	4.39	*
Respiratory diseases	2.09	1.26	0.94	1.18	*
Infant Mortality (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	68	33	39	35	30
Maternal Mortality (Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 live and still births)	—	0.95	1.06	0.98	0.86

* Figures not available

TABLE IV.
STATISTICS FOR THE DISTRICT, 1946-1950.

	Popula- tion.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infant Deaths.	Infant Mortality Rate.	Still Birth Rate.
1946	14,070	21.5	13.6	16	51	23
1947	14,410	24.1	13.3	15	43	19
1948	14,690	18.7	11.4	7	26	35
1949	14,720	16.0	13.9	9	38	25
1950	14,800	15.9	14.7	16	68	45

Table I shows the main causes of death and the age groups of those who died during the year. There is a slight increase to the total number and the rate. Diseases of the heart and circulatory system remain the most important cause, being responsible for 50 per cent. of the deaths. Respiratory diseases displace cancer from second place, being responsible for 28 deaths and cancer 27.

Approximately 70 per cent. of the deaths occurred in people over 60. There were 6 deaths due to accidents.

Table II shows the causes and ages at death of the 16 infants under one year. This figure gives an infant mortality rate of 68, a very large increase on previous figures. The table shows that 11 of the deaths occurred in the first month, and of these, 5 were due to prematurity, 2 to congenital malformation and 1 to cerebral hæmorrhage. That is to say, eight of the eleven deaths were due to conditions having their origin in the ante-natal period and of which our knowledge of causation and treatment is very imperfect.

It should be noted, while considering premature births, that there was also a substantial increase in the still-birth rate. It is sometimes forgotten that still births are in many cases in the same category as premature births in regard to causation, the only distinction often being that the death takes place just before delivery instead of after.

Another important fact to be gleaned from this table is that four children died of pneumonia. In these days of sulphonamides and antibiotics one tends to think of such infections as being no longer of great seriousness. These figures will serve to check our complacency and remind us that they are still to be regarded with respect.

Table III shows how Ossett compares with similar areas in the County, with the County as a whole and England and Wales.

Table IV is included to show the trend of the main vital statistics.

It should perhaps be noted here that the provisional figures for the population in 1951, as revealed by the census, suggest that the estimates of the population, made during the intercensal years, were in excess of the true figures. The 1951 figure is actually 1.8% lower than that for 1931.

SECTION B.

THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

Laboratory Facilities.

There has been no change in the provision of laboratory facilities as they affect Ossett. Very close liaison is maintained with the Director, Dr. Lane, particularly on epidemiological problems.

Ambulance Facilities.

There has been no major change in the ambulance service as it affects this district.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

This is provided at the Snapethorpe Hospital, Wakefield.

General Hospital Accommodation.

In this respect there is apparently little change from last year to report. The chronic sick are still the main sufferers. There is need for accommodation also for those who, while unable to look after themselves entirely, do not require medical treatment or full nursing facilities. Hostels for aged people are designed to cope only with those who are capable of looking after themselves. Something between a hostel and a hospital is required.

At present, aged folks in this stage of infirmity have to remain at home, often in most unsuitable conditions. In due course, they inevitably deteriorate and become candidates for full hospital accommodation, when a little help at the right time might have prevented this deterioration altogether. Furthermore, accommodation of this kind provides a useful half-way stage in the rehabilitation of the aged sick, and in this way, too, relieves the strain on the costly and scarce accommodation in hospital.

After-Care.

There has been little demand from the hospitals for this service so far. It is evident, however, from the experience of other districts and other authorities that the demand will grow as the hospitals begin to appreciate the advantages to the patient, to the hospital and to the family doctor of the domiciliary supervision, education and other help which the local authority's nurses can provide.

This area presents a special difficulty in regard to the organisation of this service, in that the "spheres of influence" of many hospitals and Management Committees overlap. There seems to be little prospect of much progress until all the hospitals and local health authorities concerned come together and form a common plan.

Domiciliary Nursing.

The figures relating to Ossett show a total of 7,411 visits made to 257 cases. The corresponding figures for last year were 7,575 and 206. There are still two nurses engaged in this work, though this year it was possible to engage a relief nurse for five weeks, so that each permanent nurse could take her holiday without throwing a double burden on her remaining colleague.

Maternity Services.

- (a) **Institutional:** The same arrangements for selection of cases and admissions obtained until October, when new arrangements were concluded with the consultant obstetrician for this area. The selection of cases is now entirely in the hands of the hospital authorities, with the proviso that, where the home is alleged to be unsuitable for home confinement, the hospital authorities will be guided in their decision by the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. Normally there would be 16 beds per month for this division available for booking for this category of patient. These beds would be available only at the General Hospital, Wakefield.

These arrangements have worked well. That is to say no one in real need of a hospital bed has failed to get one.

Institutional confinements are popular with mothers for many reasons, not the least important now being the saving by the family on money which can be effected in this way. From the point of view of the country, of course, there is no saving. In fact, hospital confinements cost considerably more than a home confinement. The country is also faced with the tremendous problem of the increasing cost of the Health Service generally, so that it is obviously important to examine this question of the need for institutional confinements very carefully.

In the first place it can be said that the majority of medical opinion is in favour of home confinements for normal cases on psychological as well as on obstetric grounds. This opinion presupposes the existence of an efficient domiciliary obstetric service, ante-natal clinics, midwifery and medical staff, domiciliary consultant service, ambulance service and a flying squad for emergencies. All these are available in this area. It also presupposes proper housing accommodation. Hence our arrangements for selecting mothers with unsuitable home conditions for admission to hospital.

Looked at from the hospital viewpoint, obviously all cases which are, or might become, complicated obstetrically must be admitted. Hospitals which are

training schools will also need normal cases for teaching purposes. Some of these will be cases admitted because of unsuitable homes, but a good deal of the experience of the midwife and medical student is obtained when working "on the district."

These considerations should give those whose business it is to determine the hospital needs of the community a good idea of the requirements in a particular area. A close liaison with the Medical Officer of Health in the area will ensure that available accommodation is equitably disposed.

In addition to the provision of services and accommodation, it would seem desirable to examine the scheme of financial benefits. Many mothers feel that those who are confined at home are penalised financially compared with those who are confined in hospital.

Out of 246 births, 107 took place in institutions, a slightly smaller proportion than last year.

- (b) **Domiciliary Confinements:** There were 139 of these attended during the year. The borough is covered by three midwives. Gas and air analgesia was employed in 101 cases. All the midwives are trained to administer this form of analgesia, and two units are available for use in the area.
- (c) **Ante-Natal Care:** There has been no change in the arrangements for Ante-Natal care. The clinic is held weekly at Croft House, and Dr. Irene Hargreaves is the medical officer. There were 777 attendances of 194 mothers ante-natally and 31 mothers made 34 attendances post-natally.
- (d) **Maternal Mortality:** There were no maternal deaths during the year.
- (e) **Premature Babies:** The ordinary birth notification cards now indicate the birth weight of every baby. Where this is $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. or less, it is assumed that the birth was premature. In these cases the arrangements outlined in my report last year are put into effect as necessary. There were 15 premature babies and 5 still births so notified.
- (f) **Child Welfare:** The Child Welfare Clinic continues to operate twice weekly at Croft House as hitherto. The attendance figures were as follows:—

No. of children who attended.	Attendances. Under 1 year.	Attendances. 1-5 years.
559	3,417	1,952

The addition of another trained Health Visitor to the staff enabled me to transfer Mrs. A. E. Spencer to work in Ossett. This has greatly eased the situation in the Borough, where the work was far too great for one Health Visitor.

I have again much pleasure in acknowledging the good work of Dr. Coad as medical officer of the Clinic and the Committee of voluntary helpers.

School Health.

The school population at the end of the year was 2,398.

Owing to my absence due to sickness, the programme of medical inspections, which was to be carried out in the autumn term, had to be severely curtailed. Only two schools were visited and 87 children seen. It is hoped to catch up on this work during the ensuing year.

School Clinic.

This is held every morning the schools are open. Dr. Hargreaves, Assistant County Medical Officer, attends weekly on Wednesday afternoon. There were 3,837 attendances at 259 sessions during the year.

Cleanliness.

School.	No. of children inspected	No. of individual children found to be infested.	Percentage of individual children infested.	
			1950. %	1949. %
Southdale Modern	608	35	5.7	5.4
Holy Trinity C.E.	315	20	6.3	5
Gawthorpe Council	324	26	8	9.6
Flusdyke Council	231	16	6.9	12.8
Spa Street Council	140	9	6.4	2
St. Ignatius' R.C.	115	2	1.7	7
South Ossett C.E.	234	19	8.1	14

Domestic Help Service.

This service continued to grow with a steadily increasing demand. Unfortunately the growth outstripped the approved establishment, and at the beginning of the year there was a period when the service had to be severely curtailed. In August, however, an increased establishment was approved, and the service gradually got into its stride again. The total number of

cases dealt with in Ossett was 114, as against 82 in 1949. The types of case are shown in the following table:—

Illness (excluding aged) ...	38
Lying-in	44
Expectant mothers ...	2
Mentally defective ...	1
Aged	29
<hr/>	
Total	114
<hr/>	

Mental Health.

There were two certified mentally defective persons under statutory supervision and three under voluntary supervision. Three were in employment.

One helpless patient under guardianship was removed to hospital because her elderly parents became unable to provide the constant care and attention which she required.

A number of background histories were furnished for use at the mental hospital to which patients were admitted for treatment. Two cases discharged from the mental hospital were referred for "after-care."

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(a) Water Supply.

Two-thirds of the supply is obtained from a deep well and one-third bought in bulk from Batley.

Twenty bacteriological samples and seven chemical samples have been examined. All were satisfactory.

The well water is softened with lime and the ph values are always high. The question of plumbo solvency does not therefore arise.

No action has been necessary in regard to contamination.

There are 4,859 dwelling houses in the borough, and all are supplied direct from the mains.

(b) Housing.

During the year the Council completed 44 new houses, and 12 were completed by private enterprise. While this is a substantial number, it must be remembered that the records of the Health Department show that, at the end of 1950, there were 171 families living in overcrowded conditions. At the end of 1949 this figure was 157. During 1950 26 new cases of overcrowding came to light and 17 were relieved. There are also those whose numbers are not accurately known who live in houses that could be condemned. The figure is calculated as approximately 200. This number is continually being added to by the normal deterioration of property, which is now accelerated by the lack of adequate maintenance.

The conclusion from the above figures must be that rehousing on the present scale is barely keeping pace with normal wastage and new applications.

SECTION D.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**Notifiable Diseases.**

The following cases of infectious disease (other than tuberculosis) were notified during the year:—

	0-1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	Over 25.	No. of cases.	Removed to hospital.
Scarlet Fever		1	1	8	1			11	11
Whooping Cough	1	8	11	15				35	
Poliomyelitis		1					1	2	1
Measles	16	79	95	148	1	1	1	341	
Pneumonia				1			1	2	
Dysentery				1				1	1
Puerperal pyrexia							2	2	

Measles was the only disease occurring in anything like epidemic proportions. The disease itself is usually mild, though its complications, unless controlled by antibiotics or the "sulpha" drugs, can be dangerous.

Whooping Cough was not much in evidence, though its incidence was slightly greater than it was last year.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 108 children received a full immunising course, and 13 children received reinforcing doses.

The total number of children under 15 years of age who have completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to the end of the year is 2,279.

This represents 65% of the child population.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

The number of persons vaccinated during the year was as follows:—

Under 1 year	32
1-4 years	14
5-15 years	3
15 or over	7
	<hr/> 56 <hr/>

Tuberculosis.

New cases were notified as follows:—

		M	F	Total
Pulmonary	...	2	3	5
Non-Pulmonary	...	2	3	5
		4	6	10

The following cases were removed from the Register during the year:—

		M	F	Total
Pulmonary	...	3	4	7
Non-Pulmonary	...	1	0	1
		4	4	8

Cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year were:—

		M	F	Total
Pulmonary	...	20	13	33
Non-Pulmonary	...	12	7	19
		32	20	52

Food Poisoning.

There were no outbreaks of Food Poisoning.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR,

Year ended 31st December, 1950.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in submitting for your approval the Report on Housing and Sanitary matters for the year ended 31st December, 1950, and Refuse Removal and Disposal for the financial year ended 31st March, 1951.

HOUSING.

During the year 44 houses were completed by this Corporation, 9 by private enterprise and 3 conversions of existing dwellings, making a total of 56 new dwellings.

This total is a slight increase on last year's figures, but still represents only a small percentage of the houses required.

The total applications for Council Houses stand at 812, being composed of:—

Ossett Residents at present occupying a house	519	
do. in lodgings	166	
	—	685
Applicants from outside Ossett and occupying a house	58	
Applicants from outside Ossett and in lodgings	69	
	—	127
		—
		812
		==

The number of families living in lodgings in Ossett shows a satisfactory reduction, but the total applications are only six less than last year's list.

It should be noted that a considerable amount of the Department's time is spent in inspecting the dwellings of these applicants and in re-inspecting for changed circumstances. During the course of these inspections it was discovered that a number of applicants had changed their address, and they were removed from the Register.

Building costs continue to rise, and it becomes more difficult to secure the co-operation of owners in effecting necessary repairs.

A total of 156 cases of overcrowding, involving 171 families, is known to exist in the Borough, and this can be associated with the considerable number of small dwellings. Although 17 overcrowded families were rehoused during the year, a further 26 cases were discovered.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

During the year 22 trough closets (automatic flush) were converted to water-closets with pedestal basins and separate flushing cisterns.

Nineteen additional water-closets were provided at existing properties, ten at dwelling-houses and nine at factories.

Six dry ashpits were replaced by 22 dustbins.

Work in connection with drains included the reconstruction of five drainage systems. Forty-seven choked systems were opened and cleansed.

Your Committee decided that after February, 1950, dustbins required by Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, should be provided without charge. 272 were so provided during the year.

The following table gives details of improvements effected during the year:—

Troughs (automatic flush) converted to water-closets	22
Additional water-closets provided	19
Drains reconstructed	5
Drains opened and cleansed	47

The following table shows the existing sanitary accommodation at the close of 1950:—

Water-closets	4,518
Ashbins	4,512
Pail closets	6
Trough closets	34
Slop (tipper) closets	25
Privies in connection with ashpits	62
Ashpits in connection with privies	46
Ashpits (dry)	121

FOOD SUPPLIES.

A large proportion of the unsound food surrendered was again due to a fire at a grocery store, and much of the damage was due to broken glass and water.

As far as is possible the surrendered foodstuffs are utilised for animal feeding.

No complaint was received during the year from the public in respect of tinned foods, and the following is a summary of foodstuffs found unfit for consumption:—

Unsound Food, 1950.

Commodity.	Weight.	
	Lbs.	Ozs.
Bacon	175	1
Baking powder	16	—
Beef	120	—
Beverages	1	8
Bread	4	—
Cake flour	27	—
Cereals	135	5½
Cheese trimmings	5	10
Cocoa	32	—
Custard powder	4	—
Eggs in shell	63	6
Liquid egg	44	—
Fish (fresh)	134	8
Fish (tinned)	13	3¾
Fish and meat pastes	—	7¾
Flour	608	—
Fruit pies	—	8
Fruit (dried)	8	14
Fruit (tinned)	148	1
Gravy salt	4	8
Herbs	2	—
Jellies	23	10
Meat (tinned)	60	4
Milk (dried)	50	—
Milk (tinned)	132	3
Pickles	13	8¾
Pork	270	—
Preserves	24	—
Pudding mixture	64	14
Pudding (tinned)	1	—
Sausage	56	—
Sausage rusk, soya flour and wheat flour	524	—
Soup (tinned)	6	14½
Suet	3	8
Sugar	196	—
Sugar (icing)	1	—
Sweets	5	12
Tea	108	4
Vegetables (tinned)	66	13½
Total ...	3,155	12¾

Total Weight :—1 ton 8 cwt. 19¾ lbs.

Milk.

The number of retail licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Milk Regulations, 1949, are as follows:—

Pasteurised	1
Supplementary Pasteurised	1
Pasteurised/T.T.	17
Supplementary Pasteurised/T.T.	1
Sterilised	15

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

Routine disinfection after Infectious Disease was carried out as follows:—

Schools	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	25

Disinfestation by means of Gammexane and D.D.T. was carried out in 25 houses. The present system is proving effective.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Smoke from Industrial Plants continues to be a source of intermittent nuisance, but some advance has been made with a colliery chimney by direct negotiation. Various improvements to this plant are contemplated in the near future to relieve the overloading and reduce or eliminate the smoke emission.

INFESTATION CONTROL (RATS AND MICE).

Sewer Control.

Routine prebaiting of 10% of the manholes, with following prebaiting and poisoning, was carried out, and is now standard practice.

Surface Control.

During the year 63 premises were treated—41 for rats and 22 for mice.

Normal practice is adopted—prebaiting for 3-4 days, with final use of poison bait, varying the bait base and poison as required.

Routine treatments for Refuse Tips, Sewage Works and other Corporation properties were carried out during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

No improvement was apparent in the labour shortage for this service, particularly in winter. The man hours lost during the year were as follows:—

Staff shortage and absenteeism	2,346½	man hours
Paid sickness	1,284	man hours
Total	3,630½	

Staff.

The full complement of employees engaged on Refuse Collection and Disposal was 12—three drivers, eight loaders and one tipman. In October, however, salvage work was recommenced and a man and youth employed in Paper Baling.

In March, 1951, two additional loaders were engaged and one man promoted to the position of Ganger.

With a full staff working, the vehicles and gangs are now operating at optimum efficiency, and considerable benefit is apparent from the appointment of a ganger.

Transport.

Three motor vehicles operate full time—two 2-3 tonners fitted with hydraulically-operated tipping bodies, enclosed with metal sliding covers, operating whole-time on ashbin collections; and one 30 cwt. tipper, fitted with roll-back canvas, which is engaged on ashpit collection, kitchen waste, etc.

The ashbin vehicles came into service in 1948 and 1949 respectively, and the 30 cwt. vehicle has been in service since February, 1940.

Disposal.

House and Trade Refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping at Flushdyke.

Salvage.

Details of Salvage sold during the year are as follows:—

				T.	Cwts.	Qrs.
Waste paper	...	...	...	37	5	1
Kitchen waste	...	...	...	61	10	2
Total				98	15	3

Income—£677 5s. 2d.

Costs.

				£	s.	d.
The gross cost of the service for the year				5,337	12	11
(Including Wages and Insurance						
£3,624 1s. 6d.)						
Total Income for the year	...	...	...	833	18	5
Nett cost as a charge on the Rates	...	...	...	£4,503	14	6
Paid holidays	...	...	...	190	16	4
Paid sickness	...	...	...	134	1	10
Total	...	...	...	£324	18	2

For costing purposes depreciation over a five-year period is allowed on Motor Vehicles.

The total estimated tonnage for the year is 4,625.5 tons at a cost of 19s. 5.7d. per ton.

Nett cost per house per annum	...	...	18s. 6.4d.
Nett cost per house per week	...	...	4.3d.

CLASSIFIED STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS.

Housing—Public Health and Housing Acts	598
Verminous premises	81
Rat-infested premises	203
Offensive accumulations	3
Factories	137
Meat allocation centre	2
Slaughterhouses	17
Stables and piggeries	18
Shops re food supplies	69
Cowsheds and dairies	24
Conversions	57
Smoke observations	20
Offensive trade premises	1
Fried fish shops	5
Bakehouses	21
Keeping of animals	10
Salvage	48
Drains inspected	274
Tips	119
Refuse collection	73
Public conveniences	13
Schools	2
Water supply	8
Dustbins	384
Infectious disease	33
Ice-cream premises	41
Visits re milk samples	21
Visits re ice-cream samples	16
Shops	4
Cellar flooding	50
Food-preparing premises	18
Miscellaneous food visits	8
Applicants for council houses	1,050
Council houses	72
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	278
Moveable dwellings	4
Funerals	6
Total number of inspections	3,788

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS MADE AND DEFECTS REMEDIED.

DWELLING-HOUSES.

Rendered free from dampness	8
Roofs repaired	55
External walls repaired	19
Chimneys repaired	1
Water fittings repaired	4
New sinks fitted	6
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	8
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	23
Fallpipes repaired or renewed	3
Windows repaired	10
Sash cords renewed	6
Plaster repaired	37
Floors repaired	8
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	5
Coppers repaired or renewed	2
Water removed from cellars	5
Treated for vermin	25
Disinfected	25
Cleansed	5
Other defects remedied	30

WATER-CLOSETS.

Additional water-closets provided for existing property	...	...	19
Provided for new houses	...	...	84
Total number provided (houses)	...	...	94
Total number provided (other premises)	...	...	9
Cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	9
New pedestals fixed	...	...	1
Provided with sufficient supply of water	...	...	3

DRAINS.

Reconstructed	...	...	5
Cleansed or repaired	...	...	47
Self-cleansing gullies provided	...	...	15
Colour tested	42
Smoke tested	66
Chemical tested	12

PRIVY MIDDENS.

Abolished	9
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ASHPITS.

Abolished or disused	4
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ASHBINS.

Provided in lieu of ashpits	22
Provided for new houses	56
Renewed	306

SUMMARY.

NUISANCES.

Number found during year	...	...	623
Number brought forward from previous year	...	...	285
Number abated during year	...	...	624
Number outstanding at the end of the year	...	...	284

NOTICES.

Informal notices issued	...	...	201
Informal notices complied with	...	...	182
Statutory notices issued	...	...	52
Statutory notices complied with	...	...	42

In conclusion, I must express my thanks to Mr. H. W. Mycock, Additional Sanitary Inspector, and Miss B. Boocock, Typist, without whose assistance it would have been difficult to prepare the report and figures in the circumstances.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. T. HARRISON,

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

